NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

December 6, 1996

CENTER FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND CHANGE

COLORFUL MURALS ADORN WEST DOOR

Perhaps you've noticed the bright, fanciful mural-paintings around the West door. These creations by young Chicago high school students are here courtesy of a collaboration between the Park District, CCUC and the Exhibits department. Park District staff involved in a teen mural camp over the summer also attended the Nuveen Forum Conversations hosted by CCUC. They felt that the murals incorporated Conversation themes about culture and diversity, and asked CCUC if The Field Museum would like to exhibit the murals. Working together, CCUC and the Exhibits department placed the murals on display! We'd like to thank the Education Department, Visitor Services and Security for their cooperation. We hope that everyone takes a moment to look at the creative work of these young people.

KLEIN ATTENDS MUSEUM MEETINGS

Registrar **Janice Klein** (Anthropology) attended the Midwest Museums Conference annual meeting in Lansing MI in October and the New England Museums Association annual meeting in Portsmouth NH in November. In addition to representing the national Registrars Committee of the American Association of Museums at these meetings, she attended sessions on condition reports, loan registration and computerized databases. Janice also chaired the Fall meeting of the Standing Professional Committee Council, one of three groups which advises the American Association of Museums Board of Directors. She also met with members of the American Association of Museums (AAM) staff regarding the 1997 AAM meeting in Atlanta. As part of these trips, Janice visited museums in Boston, New York, and Washington, DC and met with colleagues to discuss repatriation at the Peabody Museum, Harvard University and the American Museum of Natural History.

ANTHROPOLOGISTS PRESENT PAPERS AT ANNUAL MEETINGS

The following Anthropology curators presented papers or participated in scientific sessions at the 95th annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, November 20-24: **Associate Curator Alaka Wali, Curator John Terrell, Associate Curator Chip Stanish, Curator Anna Roosevelt, and MacArthur Curator Jonathan Haas.**

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

MUELLER AND STRACK RETURN FROM COSTA RICA

Associate Curator **Greg Mueller** and Associate **Betty Strack** (both Botany) returned from another successful field trip to Costa Rica (November 12-26). Highlights of the trip included finding the largest mushroom they've ever seen - the cap was more than three feet (one meter) in diameter and it weighed more than fifteen pounds! It was growing out of an old leaf-cutter ant nest. They were told that this giant mushroom was last seen fifteen years ago. On Friday night Greg was featured on Costa Rican television when a popular comedy decided to do a show on "Los Secretos de los Hongos" (The Secrets of Fungi). Besides basing the story on a plot to get rich by stealing mushroom secrets, Greg talked about the importance of fungi in Costa Rican forests. They were also filmed and interviewed for a planned natural history show on Costa Rican fungi. This trip was part of Greg's National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded projects investigating the mushrooms of Costa Rican oak fungi and their potential medicinal uses.

NOON BALLOON

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday, December 3, 1996 was delivered by **Alfred Newton, Jr.,** Associate Curator and Head, Division of Insects, Department of Zoology, Field Museum. Al provided an overview of his long term research on the evolution of staphylinoid beetles. He focused on members of the early derivative families Agyrtidae and Leiodidae. He discussed numerous aspects of their morphology, ecology and biogeography.

The Noon Balloon is pleased to host a special seminar, Tuesday, December 10, beginning at Noon in the Zoology Classroom, to be delivered by Mikhail Fedonkin, Paleontological Institute, and Museum of Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow. The title of his presentation: *Cold water origin of animal life.*

Employee Anniversaries
December 1996

Valerie Gardner	Visitor Services	5 years
Daniel Miller	Zoology	5 years
Mark Westneat	Zoology	5 years
Katie Davis	Visitor Services	10 years
Peyton Fawcett	Library	40 years

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.

December 1996

Museum Wide Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 6:00-9:30pm SE Berlex, SFH 2000	2 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 6:00-11:00pm IL Mycological, LH2 7:00-10:00pm SE Hang Gliding, LH1	3 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST	4 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 4:00-6:00pm Women's Board Holiday Tea 6:00-8:00pm ED AFC programs, LH2	5 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 11:00am-5:00pm SE Automatic Building Controls, LH1 6:00-8:00pm ED AFC programs, LH2	6 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 6:00pm-12:00am SE Catholic Charities, SFH 1000	7 8:30am-2:00pm ED Teacher Wkshop, LH1 9:00am-4:00pm ED AFC programs, LH2 12:00-4:00pm Chester Higgins Lecture & Bk signing, LH1 & JST 6:00pm-12:00am SE Deloitte & Touche, SFH/Bal 1000
8 Bears Game 12:00-4:00pm SE B& G Club, JST 2:00pm-2:00am SE Set up for 12/9 event, SFH	9 1:00pm-12:00am SE set-up FCB in JST 6:30-10:30pm SE Camera Club, LH2 7:00-9:30pm Primitive Art Society, LH1 7:00-11:00pm SE Georgia Pacific, SFH/Bal 250	10 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 4:00-10:00pm SE Foote Cone & Beld, JST/ SFH 600 4:00-8:00pm CCUC, LH2	11 9:00am-12:00pm FM Board of Trustees, LH2 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 6:00-8:00pm ED AFC programs, LH2	12 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 6:00-8:00pm ED AFC programs, LH2 7:00pm SE Bank of Montreal, SFH/Bal 750	13 8:30am-12:00pm ED Urban Imagination NetWork, LH1 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 6:00pm-12:00am SE Info Systems SFH/Bal	14 Bears Game 6:00pm-12:00am SE IL Masonic, SFH/ Bal 700 7:00pm ED Maori House Overnight
15 5:00-8:30pm SE Bruss, SFH 500	16 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 6:30-9:30pm SE Mountaineer, LH2	17 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 8:00pm Stephen Hawkins Lecture, JST 1000	18 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 7:00-10:00pm SE Chgo Herp.,LH1	19 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST	20 10:30am-12:00pm SE Kids R People 2, JST 5:00-11:00pm Museum Staff Holiday Party	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas - Museum Closed	26 9:00am-3:00pm Festival of Masks, SFH, JST, LH1 & 2	27 9:00am-3:00pm Festival of Masks, SFH, JST, LH1 & 2	28 9:00am-3:00pm Festival of Masks, SFH, JST, LH1 & 2
29 9:00am-3:00pm Festival of Masks, SFH, JST, LH1 & 2	30 9:00am-3:00pm Festival of Masks, SFH, JST, LH1 & 2	31 9:00am-3:00pm Festival of Masks, SFH, JST, LH1 & 2				

12/2/1996

"BOOK-ABLE" SPACES IN FIELD MUSEUM
1/6/95

SPACE	LOC	MAX	USE	SCHEDULE BY	CONTACT	EXT.	
Classroom 1	GF	50	I P	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Classroom 2	GF	40	I P	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Classroom 3	GF	30	I P	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
~~Classroom 4~~	~~2nd~~	~~40~~	~~I P~~	~~Education~~	~~Bob Cantu~~	~~353~~	CLOSED
Conf. Room 1	GF	20	I	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room A	GF	16	I	Instit. Adv.	Suzanne Murphy	210	Restricted use
Dining Room B	GF	4	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room C	GF	6	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room C/D	GF	20	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room D	GF	12	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room E	GF	75	I P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
D&P Conf. Room	4th	10	I	Exhibits	Jessica Newman	329	
Educ. Conf. Room	GF	14	I S	Education	Clara Aytch-Baker	247	
Developers Conf. Rm.	4th	8	I	Exhibits	Jessica Newman	329	
Founder's Room	1st	100	I S	Tours	Dorothy Roder	862	Restricted use
Montgomery Ward H.	GF	150	I P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Lecture Hall II	GF	75	I P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Picnic East (Sch)	GF	320	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Picnic West (Pub)	GF	125	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Rice Center	1st		P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Simpson Theatre	GF	1000	I P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Zoology Clrm.	3rd	50	I	Zoology	Norann Miller	255	
Webber Resource	1st	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Maori Meeting House	2nd	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Pawnee Earth Lodge	1st	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Place for Wonder	1st	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Stanley Field Hall	1st	35	I P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
EXHIBIT HALL: Permanent Exhibits			P S	Spec. Events	Carol Konieczny	218	Exhibits Dept. consulted prior to confirmation
EXHIBIT HALLS: Special Exhibits			P S	Spec. Events	Carol Konieczny	218	

I = Internal (meetings, etc.)

P = Public (Programs, Classes, etc.)

S = Special Events